

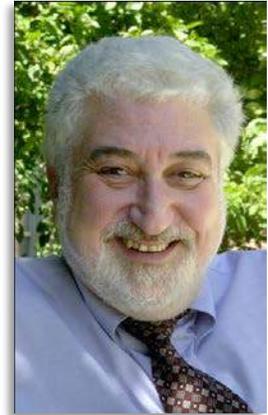
**Scientific Think Tank:  
Using Population Models and Field Studies to Develop More Effective and  
Efficient Sterilization Strategies  
June 8 – 10, 2011**

**Participants**

**Alan M. Beck, Sc.D**

Department of Comparative Pathobiology, School of Veterinary Medicine, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Alan M. Beck received his Baccalaureate from Brooklyn College and Master's degree from California State University at Los Angeles. He received his Doctorate in Animal Ecology from The Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health. He has studied the ecological and public health implications of dogs in Baltimore, St. Louis, New York, and along the United States-Mexican border. His book, *The Ecology of Stray Dogs: A Study of Free-Ranging Urban Dogs* is considered a classic in the field of urban ecology and was republished by Purdue University Press in 2002. Together with Dr. Aaron Katcher, he edited the book, *New Perspectives on Our Lives with Companion Animals*, and co-authored the popular book, *Between Pets and People: The Importance of Animal Companionship*, first published in 1983 then revised in 1996. Dr. Beck has published numerous articles on the nature of our relationship with animals and is a founding board member of the Delta Society.



Dr. Beck directed the animal programs for the New York City Department of Health for five years, and then was the Director of the Center for the Interaction of Animals and Society at the University of Pennsylvania, School of Veterinary Medicine for 10 years. In 1990, Dr. Beck became the "Dorothy N. McAllister Professor of Animal Ecology" and Director of the Center for the Human-Animal Bond in the School of Veterinary Medicine, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. The Center was established to develop a comprehensive understanding of the relationship between people and their companion animals.



**Claudia Baldwin, DVM, MS Dipl. ACVIM**

Director, Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program, Associate Professor, Veterinary Clinical Sciences Faculty, Center for Food Security and Public Health, College of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State University, Ames, IA  
[www.maddiesfundisu.org](http://www.maddiesfundisu.org)      [www.vetmed.iastate.edu/](http://www.vetmed.iastate.edu/)

Claudia Baldwin is a 1982 graduate of Michigan State University. Following one year in practice, Dr. Baldwin began a residency in internal medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a concurrent MS degree; Thesis: Contraception, Clinical, Morphologic and Endocrine effects of Levonorgestrel in Cats, 1986. From 1986 – 1990, she taught at Oklahoma State University and became ACVIM board certified (Internal Medicine). Since 1990, Dr. Baldwin has been a faculty member in Veterinary Clinical Sciences at Iowa State University, practicing internal medicine and teaching internal medicine, infectious disease, and reproduction. Since 2003, efforts have focused on shelter medicine. Dr. Baldwin is the Director of ISU Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program which includes speaking, didactic teaching, research, and a summer scholars and externship program. Additionally she coordinates surgical rotations, shelter experiences with students, disease investigations, and co-advises the student Association of Shelter Veterinarians and ISU Feral Cat Alliance. She is a board member of the Iowa Federation of Humane Societies and has experience in professional organization and university governance and leadership.

**John Boone, PhD**

Board of Directors, SPCA of Northern Nevada and Senior Biologist, Great Basin Bird Observatory, Reno, NV

John is a professional wildlife biologist whose work focuses on applied conservation issues, including population monitoring and habitat restoration. He received a B.S. in Biology and Physics at George Washington University (Phi Beta Kappa), a M. S. in Biology from Idaho State University, and a Ph. D. in Ecology from the University of Colorado at Boulder. After graduate school, he joined a multi-disciplinary research group at the University of Nevada, Reno, focusing on zoonotic diseases (primarily hantavirus and arenavirus) in North and South America. John was the ecologist and mammalogist for this group, and did significant work modeling the spatial and temporal dynamics of hantavirus – host systems in natural settings. In 2004, John signed on as a senior biologist with the Great Basin Bird Observatory, a Nevada non-profit organization that provides biological services and expertise to a wide range of resource management agencies throughout the intermountain west region. In this capacity, he has been involved with major bird inventory efforts (including publication of the “Nevada Breeding Bird Atlas”), major planning efforts (including the “Nevada Comprehensive Bird Conservation Plan”), and a host of other applied conservation projects across the region, including those involving endangered / threatened / candidate species.



John has had a lifelong affinity for animals and an appreciation of their cognitive abilities, but his formal involvement in the animal welfare world began in 2000, when he began volunteering at the SPCA of Northern Nevada. He joined the organization’s board in 2001, and served as board chair from 2002 – 2008, a period of significant growth. Additionally, John headed up planning and implementation for a regional spay-neuter program funded by Maddie’s Fund (“Maddie’s Spay Neuter Project in Nevada) in 2007 – 2009, which resulted in well over 5,000 subsidized pet alterations for residents of northern Nevada. John is currently organizing a new statewide spay-neuter initiative under the “Spay Nevada” banner, which is slated to begin operation in early 2011. He continues to serve on the board of the SPCA of Northern Nevada, which is currently building a new shelter and animal welfare center that will focus on dog rehabilitation, humane education, and coordination of statewide spay-neuter efforts.

**Joyce Briggs, MS**

President, Alliance for Contraception in Cat and Dogs, Portland, OR

Briggs has been involved in a leadership capacity with ACC&D full time since 2006. She has helped substantially advance interest in, work toward, and support for creating non-surgical sterilants for progressive population control of cats and dogs. She has led the organization’s strategic planning, fundraising, and program development, established a respected Scientific Advisory Board, and produced and directed two major scientific symposiums and now three scientific think tanks. She has played a key cultivation role in developing strategic partnerships advancing this field.



Briggs has worked in national animal welfare for over fifteen years, through top general management, marketing, development, program and public relations positions at national nonprofit organizations, and as a management consultant bridging nonprofits, corporations and communities. As executive director of PetSmart Charities from 1999 - 2004, Briggs developed and oversaw the grants program which raised and distributed \$23 million. Through adoption centers in over 620 PetSmart stores, PetSmart Charities found homes for over 1.2 million once-homeless pets in that time. Briggs was senior director of marketing and PR for the American Humane Association. She served on the Board of Directors for the Delta Society for three years and is active with the Animal Shelter Alliance of Portland (ASAP) . Prior to working full-time in animal protection, Briggs held corporate positions for 15 years. Her career spans management positions with New York City advertising agencies, including Ogilvy & Mather, and marketing leadership positions with Nabisco, Nutri-System and the Franklin Mint. She holds a master’s degree in advertising from Northwestern University.

**Tamara Golden, PhD**

Science Writer/Consultant, Golden Bioscience Communications, Denver, CO

Tamara received her B.S. in Biochemistry from the University of Notre Dame, and her Ph.D. from the Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology (BCMB) program at Johns Hopkins University's School of Medicine. Her graduate and postdoctoral research focused on mitochondrial bioenergetics, and biochemical and gene expression changes related to oxidative stress and aging. As a science and medical writer, she works with a variety of clients to communicate topics ranging from biochemical and molecular biological techniques, to disease and drug information.



**Dennis Lawler, DVM**

Research Scientist, Gerontologist, O'Fallon, IL

Dr. Lawler received his DVM degree from the University of Illinois in 1974. His research and clinical experience include community practice, animal reproduction, genetics, nutrition, population medicine, and the natural biology of close-quartered animal populations. He provided health care for colonies of dogs and cats numbering between 1400 and 2200 for more than two decades. He was a co-principal investigator in a lifetime study in which reduced energy intake was evaluated in dogs. He was part of an international research team headed by the National Institutes of Health scientists that explored the genetics of size in dogs. This group identified a single gene that codes for an IGF1 growth factor in dogs that accounts for a large portion of the size variation among dog breeds of today. Dr. Lawler's current research interests include genetic aspects of chronic diseases of aging.



**Julie Levy, DVM, PhD, DACVIM**

Director, Maddie's® Shelter Medicine Program, College of Veterinary Medicine, Gainesville, FL  
[www.UFShelterMedicine.com](http://www.UFShelterMedicine.com)

Dr. Julie Levy is director of Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program at the University of Florida. Dr. Levy's research and clinical interests center on the health and welfare of animals in shelters, feline infectious diseases, humane alternatives for cat population control, and contraceptive vaccines for cats. She is the founder of Operation Catnip, with two university-based feral cat spay/neuter programs that have sterilized more than 45,000 cats since 1994. Dr. Levy has published more than 100 journal articles and textbook chapters. She is the recipient of the Carl J. Norden-Pfizer Distinguished Teacher Award, Outstanding Woman Veterinarian of the Year, and the European Society of Feline Medicine Award for Outstanding Contributions in the Field of Feline Medicine



**Phil Miller, PhD**

Senior Program Officer, Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (SSC/IUCN), Apple Valley, MN  
[www.cbsg.org](http://www.cbsg.org)

Phil Miller is the Senior Program Officer with the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG), an international wildlife conservation organization that is part of the Species Survival Commission of the IUCN – International Union for Conservation of Nature. Academically trained as a population geneticist and conservation biologist (PhD, Arizona State University, 1994), Phil uses computer simulation techniques for population viability analysis (PVA) across a broad diversity of endangered wildlife species – from garter snakes in Wisconsin to mountain gorillas in Uganda – and against an equally diverse human cultural background. Through planning and conducting more than 70 risk assessment workshops in 35 countries around the world, he has helped local people develop practical management strategies for endangered species populations threatened by a variety of human activities.



Success in practical application of PVA comes from a parallel training in the dynamics of human social interaction – an understanding of how people think and work together in groups as they try to understand threats to wildlife and the actions required to reduce these threats. Phil employs facilitation techniques in CBSG’s Population and Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA) workshop processes to help people analyze risks to wildlife persistence in an organized and effective manner.

Current areas of research include the design and application of tools to physically link individual simulation modeling platforms to create a “metamodeling” environment for exploring higher levels of complexity in coupled human-natural systems, and the explicit integration of decision analysis tools with endangered species conservation planning in order to help local wildlife management officials make more informed choices for species conservation.

Phil lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota with his wife Ellen (also a biologist, at the University of Minnesota) and 12-year-old twins Sydney (addicted to volleyball) and Jason (addicted to video games).

**Joshua Mitteldorf, PhD**

Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Dept of the University of Arizona, based in Philadelphia, PA

Joshua Mitteldorf conducts studies of evolution, using computer simulation to investigate the way interactions between individuals and groups of individuals can affect the behaviors that are selected: Under what circumstances can group cooperation outweigh individual fitness?  
<http://SimEvolution.org>



Originally an astrophysicist, Mitteldorf moved to evolutionary biology as a primary field in 1996. He has taught at Harvard, Berkeley, Bryn Mawr, LaSalle and Temple University. His present research is under the auspices of the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Dept of the University of Arizona.

In private life, Mitteldorf is an advocate for election integrity and an avid amateur musician, playing piano in chamber groups and French horn in a community orchestra. Community activities include a weekly yoga class which has taught for 30 years, and advocacy for public health and personal fitness. His two daughters are among the first children adopted from China in the mid-1980s.

**Gary Patronek, VMD, PhD**

VP for Animal Welfare and New Program Development, Animal Rescue League of Boston, Boston, MA  
[www.arlboston.org](http://www.arlboston.org)

Dr Gary Patronek began his career in shelter medicine in 1988, becoming one of the first veterinarians to hold an executive position at an animal shelter. He later pursued a PhD in Epidemiology in the Center for Human Animal Bond with a focus on animal welfare and shelter issues. He has published several papers on pet population dynamics and risk factors for relinquishment. More recently, he published several papers using GIS (Geographic Information Systems) technology and area-based analysis to examine shelter intake, adoptions, and euthanasia with respect to census-based community demographics. He was the Director of the Tufts Center for Animals and Public Policy at the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine from 1997-2003, where he also founded the Hoarding of Animals Research Consortium (HARC). He continues to work and publish on animal hoarding. He is currently vice president for animal welfare and new program development at the Animal Rescue League of Boston (ARL). For the past several years, he was an editor and member of the Association of Shelter Veterinarians task force that developed the recently released Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters.



**James A. Serpell, PhD**

Section Chief, Behavior and Human-Animal Interactions, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA



James Serpell is the Marie A. Moore Professor of Humane Ethics and Animal Welfare at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, where he also directs the Center for the Interaction of Animals & Society (CIAS). He received his bachelor's degree in Zoology from University College London (UK) in 1974, and his PhD in Animal Behavior from the University of Liverpool (UK) in 1980. In 1985 he established the Companion Animal Research Group at the University of Cambridge before moving in 1993 to his current position at the University of Pennsylvania where he lectures on veterinary ethics, applied animal behavior and welfare, and human-animal interactions. His research focuses on the behavior and welfare of dogs and cats, the development of human attitudes to animals, and the history of human-animal relationships. Recently, he participated in the FAOWSPA Expert Meeting on

Dog Population Management in Banna, Italy. In addition to publishing more than 100 articles and book chapters on these and related topics, he is the author, editor or co-editor of several books including *Animals & Human Society: Changing Perspectives* (1994), *The Domestic Dog: Its Evolution, Behavior & Interactions with People* (1995), *In the Company of Animals* (1986, 1996), and *Companion Animals & Us* (2000).

**Margaret Slater, DVM, PhD**

Senior Director of Veterinary Epidemiology, Shelter Research and Development, ProLearning, Urbana, IL

Dr. Slater obtained her DVM from Cornell University in 1986 and spent a year in small animal practice. She returned to Cornell to complete a PhD in epidemiology in 1990. Dr. Slater was on the faculty of the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Texas A&M University from 1990 until 2008 when she joined the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. She is currently an Adjunct Professor at Texas A&M University and the University of Illinois.

Dr. Slater's work has been in the areas of health and disease in companion animals. She has been invited to speak at numerous local, regional and national animal welfare meetings. She is internationally recognized for her work on the sources, problems and potential solutions for free-roaming cats and dogs. Dr. Slater currently provides epidemiological and statistical support for staff across the ASPCA. Dr. Slater has more than 90 peer-reviewed publications and 2 books. Her book, *Community Approaches to Feral Cats: Problems, Alternatives, and Recommendations*, was published by the Humane Society Press in 2002. Her invited chapters on feral cats were published in John August's *Consultations in Feline Internal Medicine* in 2001 (4th ed) and 2009 (6th ed), *The Welfare of Cats*, in 2004 edited by Irene Rochlitz and *The State of the Animals III*, 2005 published by Humane Society Press.



**David Wildt, PhD**

Senior Scientist and Head, Center for Species Survival, Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, National Zoological Park, Front Royal, VA



David Wildt has conducted research at Michigan State University, Baylor College of Medicine, Texas A&M University, the National Institutes of Health and now the Smithsonian's Conservation Biology Institute. He leads a group of scientists, fellows, students and technicians who study the biology of animals, from frogs to elephants. Dr. Wildt also manages the wildlife animal collection at the National Zoo's 3,200 acre Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, near Front Royal, Virginia, a living laboratory. Basic and applied research is devoted to creating scholarly knowledge that leads to better management and conservation of small populations, especially of endangered species. Efforts are centered on reproduction, but also are connected to genetics, veterinary medicine, behavior, nutrition, ecology, small population biology and the reintroduction of species to nature. This cross-disciplinary integration through partnerships is fundamental to Dr. Wildt's philosophy. Historic examples include his studies of the cheetah, Florida panther and black footed ferret. The most recent illustration is his leadership of integrated studies of giant pandas in China to resolve ex situ breeding problems. Among the products have been new knowledge, cross-cultural trust/partnerships and training opportunities that have benefited giant panda conservation in captivity and in nature. This information has been summarized in a text edited by Dr. Wildt and his colleagues – *Giant Pandas: Biology, Veterinary Medicine and Management* published by Cambridge University Press.

Dr. Wildt has more than 285 publications in the peer-reviewed literature and 57 book chapters spanning more than 50 vertebrate species. Education: Illinois State University, B.S. Agriculture, 1972; Michigan State University, M.S. Animal Husbandry, 1973; Michigan State University, Ph.D. Physiology and Animal Husbandry, 1975; Baylor College of Medicine, Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Reproductive Physiology and Endocrinology in 1975-1977.

**Steve Zawistowski, PhD, CAAB**

Science Advisor, ASPCA, New York, NY



Zawistowski is science advisor of The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals where he currently oversees a variety of special projects. "Dr. Z" is a well-known speaker on a number of animal shelter issues including animal behavior, humane education, using statistics to manage programs and the history of animal sheltering. He is a certified applied animal behaviorist and chaired the Animal Behavior Society's Board of Professional Certification from 1998-2007; is founding co-editor of the Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science, adjunct professor of clinical medicine at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, and an adjunct assistant professor in the Animal Behavior and Conservation graduate program at Hunter College. He co-edited Animal Shelter

Medicine with Dr. Lila Miller (2004), co-authored a history of the ASPCA, Heritage of Care with Marion Lane (2008) and authored a textbook Companion Animals in Society (2008).

**Hosts and Sponsors**

**Alicia Falsetto**

Director, Leonard X. Bosack & Bette M. Kruger Charitable Foundation, San Francisco, CA

Alicia Falsetto served as Program Manager for the Leonard X. Bosack & Bette M. Kruger Foundation in its early years, spent two years in West Africa as a Peace Corps Volunteer, recruited for several high tech companies and worked and volunteered for wildlife and nonprofit animal welfare organizations. She is currently the Director of the Leonard X. Bosack & Bette M. Kruger Charitable Foundation and serves on the Board of the North American Friends of Chawton House Library.



**Bryan Kortis**

Program Manager  
PetSmart Charities  
[www.petsmartcharities.org](http://www.petsmartcharities.org)

Bryan Kortis currently serves as a program manager for PetSmart Charities, managing their Free-roaming Cat Spay/Neuter and Targeted Spay/Neuter grants. Previously, he co-founded and for ten years served as the executive director of Neighborhood Cats, a feral cat group based in New York City which administers a comprehensive city-wide TNR program and is a leader nationally in educational and advocacy materials related to TNR. Bryan has received awards for authoring, "Implementing a Community Trap-Neuter-Return Program" (published by HSUS) and "The Neighborhood Cats TNR Handbook" (pub. by Neighborhood Cats), and for directing the videos "Trap-Neuter-Return: Fixing Feral Cat Overpopulation" (produced by HSUS) and "How to Perform a Mass Trapping" (prod. by Neighborhood Cats.) He earned a B.A. from Cornell University and J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, and has worked as an appellate attorney for indigent criminal defendants and a creative director for an independent video production company.



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